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**RUGELEY
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

YEAR 1943

**MEDICAL OFFICER'S
REPORT**

To The

RUGELEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for 1943.

The General Health of the District has been well maintained.

The increase of cases of Tuberculosis reported last year has not been repeated. Twenty new cases occurred in 1942; half of that number in 1943.

Housing accommodation is very strained. To provide adequate accommodation, it is now estimated that about 200 new houses are required.

Public Health Officers of the Authority

Medical Officer of Health.—C. N. SMITH, M.C., M.B., C.H.B., D.P.H., who is also Assistant County Medical Officer to the Staffordshire County Council, and Medical Officer of Health to the Tutbury Rural District Council.

Sanitary Inspector.—J. T. G. CRADDOCK, C.S.I.B., C.F.I., who is also Collector of the Council's Rents.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area

Area of the District	... ..	2882 acres
Registrar General's estimate of resident population	...	7,815
Rateable Value	... ..	£33,285
Sum represented by a penny rate	... ..	£128/5/1
Number of inhabited houses at end of 1943	... ..	2,220

Vital Statistics

	Total	M.	F.
Live Births	154	64	90
Legitimate	146	59	87
Illegitimate	8	5	3
Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population			19.7
Birth Rate for England and Wales			16.5
	Total	M.	F.
Still Births, Legitimate	6	2	4
„ „ Illegitimate	—	—	—
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population			0.76
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 England and Wales			0.51
	Total	M.	F.
	99	48	51

Deaths

Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population			12.6
Death Rate for England and Wales			12.1
Infantile Mortality			
Legitimate	7	2	5
Illegitimate	—	—	—

Infantile Mortality Rate England and Wales

Deaths from Cancer	45
Deaths from Measles	49
Deaths from Whooping Cough	10
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	Nil
Deaths from Puerperal Cases	Nil
	1

Prevention and Control over Infectious Diseases

The Isolation Hospital of the Mid-Staffordshire Joint Hospital Board has continued to give excellent service.

Immunisation against Diphtheria

Regular sessions have been held monthly for carrying out this work During the year :—

158 children under 5 years of age completed treatment.

134 children of school age completed treatment.

At the end of the year it was estimated that :—

80% of children under 5 years were treated.

95% of children of school age were treated.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during 1943

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	14	11	Nil
Diphtheria	7	7	Nil
Whooping Cough	6	Nil	Nil
Measles	3	Nil	Nil
Pneumonia	4	Nil	2

Analysis of Infectious Diseases classified according to age

	Under										
Age Groups	1	1	2	3	4	5	6/10	11/15	16/20	21/35	36/45
Scarlet Fever			3			2	2	2	3	1	1
Diphtheria						1	1	3		1	1
Measles	2								1		
Whooping Cough	1			1	1	2	1				

Tuberculosis

At the end of 1943 there were 67 cases on the register.

MALES

Respiratory	Non-Respiratory
23	18

FEMALES

Respiratory	Non-Respiratory
12	14

New Cases and Mortality, 1943

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1								
1- 5			2	1				
6-15		1	1	1				
16-25								
26-35	1	1						1
36-45			1					
46-55			1					
56-65								
Over 65					1			
Totals	1	2	5	2	1			1

1—Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.

Premises (1)	Number of		
	Inspections (2)	Written Notices (3)	Occupiers Prosecuted (4)
Factories (Including Factory Laundries)	10		
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries)	12		
Workplaces (Other than Outworkers premises)			
Total	22	Nil	Nil

2—Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces

Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:—*						Found	Remedied
Want of cleanliness	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
Other nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
Sanitary accommodation unsuitable or defective	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Total	...	...	...	...	...	1	1

* Including those specified in Sections 2, 3, 7 and 8 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

CHARLES N. SMITH,
Medical Officer of Health.

CAUSES OF DEATH				Males	Females
ALL CAUSES				48	51
1	Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	...	...
2	Cerebro-spinal fever	...	...
3	Scarlet fever	...	...
4	Whooping cough	...	...
5	Diphtheria	...	...
6	Tuberculosis of respiratory system	...	...	1	
7	Other forms of tuberculosis diseases	...	...		1
8	Syphilis	...	...
9	Influenza	...	...	2	
10	Measles	...	...
11	Acute Polio-Wyelitis	...	...
12	Acute Inf-Encephalitis	...	...
13	Cancer of Buccal Cavity M. Heart F	...	...
14	Cancer of Duodenum and Stomach	...	...	1	1
15	Cancer of Breast	...	...
16	Cancer of other sites...	...	...	3	5
17	Diabetes	...	...
18	Intra-Cranial Vascular Legions	...	...	4	6
19	Heart disease	...	...	14	15
20	Other diseases of circulatory system	...	...
21	Bronchitis	...	...	5	1
22	Pneumonia	...	...		2
23	Other respiratory diseases	...	...		1
24	Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	...	...	1	
25	Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 years)	...	...
26	Appendicitis	...	...
27	Other digestive diseases	...	...	1	1
28	Nephritis	...	...	2	2
29	Puerperal and post abortive sepsis	...	...
30	Other maternal causes	...	...		1
31	Premature birth	...	...		2
32	Congenital mal. birth injuries...	...	...	1	1
33	Suicide	...	...	1	
34	Road traffic accidents	...	...
35	Other violent causes	...	...	2	3
36	All other causes	...	...	10	9
Special causes (included in No. 35 above).					
	Smallpox	...	...
	Poliomyelitis	...	...
	Policencephalitis	...	...
Deaths of	(Total	...	...	2	5
Infants	—(Legitimate	...	...	2	5
under 1 year	(Illegitimate	...	...	—	—
Live Births	(Total	...	...	66	90
	—(Legitimate	...	...	59	87
	(Illegitimate	...	...	5	3
Stillbirths	(Total	...	...	2	4
	—(Legitimate	...	...	2	4
	(Illegitimate	...	...	—	—
Population	...	...	...	7815	

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of presenting to you my Thirteenth Annual Report dealing with the work carried out in the Health Department during 1943.

Closet Accommodation

The Town area is mostly sewered; and of the 1,650 houses in this area, only eleven have not been converted to the water carriage system. There are cases in the district of closets having no flushing apparatus.

A scheme has been submitted to the Ministry of Health for the proper sewerage of the Brereton area. In this area are 248 privies, and 131 water-closets to cesspools. At Etching Hill and Hednesford Road are 131 houses, sixty of which have water-closets to cesspools.

Nuisances have again arisen during the year from the overflowing of the cesspools at Hednesford Road; and in my opinion the sewerage of this area is desirable.

Public Cleansing

(a) **Dry House Refuse.**—The whole of the refuse of the district is removed by the Council's workmen in two covered vehicles.

(b) **Contents of Privies, Cesspools, etc.**—This is conveyed from the premises in a special Sludge cart and disposed of for manurial purposes.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.—During the year one Council House was found to be infested. The Council's workmen disinfested it by the following methods:—All picture moulding, skirting, boarding, etc., was removed and sprayed at intervals. All defective plaster, furniture, nail were cut out; and the back of the boarding, the plaster, furniture, nail holes, etc., were sprayed with insecticide. The insecticide we used was Bo No. A spray is left with the tenant for frequent spraying. The workmen call after one month to repeat the spraying, make good the plaster, and replace or renew necessary woodwork. Only distemper or paint is allowed on the walls. The tenant is given instructions to notify any reinfestation, and calls are made at intervals to see that the house is kept clean. The premises of prospective Council house tenants are examined, and, if infested, we endeavour to disinfest the house and furniture by the method described above, before the removal of the tenant to a Council house.

Swimming Baths

There are no public or private swimming baths or pools in the area.

Shops Acts

The Shops' Inspector has been working in conjunction with the Health Department in regard to the sanitary conveniences, ventilation, etc.

Sanitary Inspection of District

Number of houses visited during the year, either in connection with outbreaks of Infectious Disease, or in course of investigating complaints, or in carrying out a systematic survey ...	1530
Number of Final Notices issued	27
Number of Final Notices complied with	27
Number of Informal Notices issued	128
Number of Informal Notices complied with	101

Particulars of Sanitary Matters referred to in above Notices

Drains and Water Closets amended in construction and/or cleansed	28
Dwelling Houses needing repair	11
Dwelling Houses Overcrowded	0
Animals kept so as to be a nuisance	15
Scavenging	27
Offensive accumulations	13
Other matters	7
Removal of Caravan Dwellers	0
Shops Acts Sanitary Conveniences, etc	0
Cesspools emptied, etc.	17
Burst Water Piping	5
New Water Service	0
Spouting	5
Pump	0

Infectious Diseases

Number of Rooms disinfected	32
Number of Schools disinfected	2
Number of Beds disinfected	15

Smoke Abatement

No action taken or found necessary.

Premises and Occupations which can be controlled by Bye-Laws or Regulations

The Council have Bye-Laws for Common Lodging Houses. There are no Common Lodging Houses in the district. There is a Tannery in the district. There are no underground sleeping places in the district. There are no Bye-Laws for: Houses-let-in-Lodgings, tents, vans, sheds, etc., offensive trades, or Lodgings and accommodation for Hop-pickers.

Schools

In Rugeley Town the sanitary conveniences are on the water carriage system. In the added area there is no sewer available and the schools have earth closets which are emptied every week. The water supply to all the schools is received from the Council's mains.

Rag Flock Acts, 1911 and 1928

There are no premises in the district on which rag flock is manufactured, used or sold.

Housing

1. Unfit Dwelling Houses.

Inspection— (1) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects under Public Health Acts or Housing Acts		18
Number of inspections made for that purpose		45
(2) Number of Houses inspected and recorded under Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925		0
Number of inspections made for that purpose		0
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation		0
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under previous sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for habitation		0

2. Remedy of Defects without Service of Formal Notices.

Number of defected dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	7
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3. Action under Statutory powers.

A.—Proceedings under Housing Act, 1930, Sections 17, 18 and 23.

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Notices were served and requiring repairs	0
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of Formal Notices:	
(a) By owners	
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	0

B.—Proceedings under the Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Formal Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	11
(2) Number of houses in which defects were remedied after service of Formal Notices:	
(a) By owners	11
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	0

c.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which demolition orders were made	0
(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders	0
(3) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which the Council accepted undertakings from the owners not to let them for human habitation	0
(4) Number of dwelling houses demolished. They were houses in respect of which owners had given undertakings not to relet	0

4. Housing Act, 1936—Overcrowding.

(a)—(i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year 1936	58
(ii) Number of families living therein	58
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	370½
(b)— Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	2
(c)—(i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	2
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	14

Inspection and Supervision of Food

(a) Milk Supply. 48 visits have been paid to farms and dairies; and the provisions of the Milk and Dairies Orders enforced. Six informal notices were served and complied with.
There are eighteen Cowkeepers and Dairymen residing in the district, and ten Retail Purveyors, whose dairies are outside our district. The Staffordshire County Council carry out the sampling and examination of Milk for Bacterial Content and for tubercle bacilli.

(b) Meat and other foods.
Number of visits to Slaughterhouses 8
Number of visits to Butchers' Shops, Grocery and Vegetable Shops, Fish Shop Stalls, etc. 1189
Number of Informed Notices served 12
Number of Informed Notices complied with 12
All cases of slaughtering are now carried out at Stafford Abattoir. I found the following unfit for human consumption, and had the same surrendered to me: 9 stone of fish, 12 eggs, 188 lb. ham and bacon, 88 tins of meat, 69 tins of fish, 84 tins of fruit, 73 tins of vegetables, 83 tins of milk and 89 lb. of sausages.

(c) Adulteration, etc. This is not an Authority for enforcing the Acts and Regulations referred to under this head.

(d) Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food. The Staffordshire County Council have provided laboratories and carry out such work.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. T. G. CRADDOCK.

